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TITLE : PRODUCTION OF SPHERICAL THERMOPLASTIC RESIN POWDER

ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To obtain the title powder having a particle size distribution equivalent to that of said resin powder and being smooth to the touch in use, by heating an amorphous thermoplastic resin powder and a specified inorganic dispersant in a solvent to at least the melting temperature of said resin powder and cooling the mixture.

CONSTITUTION: 100pts.wt. amorphous thermoplastic resin powder (A) (e.g., PE) of a median particle diameter of 1~1,000 μ is mixed with 50~2,000pts.wt. solvent (B) (e.g., propylene glycol) incompatible with component A. 3~100pts.wt. inorganic dispersant (C) (e.g., hydrophobic silicic acid anhydride) having a particle diameter $\leq 1\mu$ and being inert to components A and B and, optionally, an emulsifier (D) are added to the above mixture, and the resulting mixture is heated for 1~10min at a temperature higher than the melting temperature of component A and cooled to obtain a spherical thermoplastic resin powder having a particle size distribution substantially equivalent to that of component A and having a median particle diameter of 1~1,000 μ .

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